

REVACCINATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Could my health, or my child or family member's health, be at risk?

- Receiving a vaccine from health centre staff during this time period does not pose a risk to you, your child or your family member's health as a result of this incident.
- The likelihood of a vaccine not being effective, due to the vaccine fridge temperatures records not being available, is low.
- However, due to this uncertainty, and out of an abundance of caution, the Island Health Medical Health Officer (MHO) Dr. Charmaine Enns has recommended that reimmunization be offered for some of the vaccines administered during this period of time.

How did this incident happen?

- Vaccine temperature record keeping can be disrupted by many factors, including staffing changes and power outages.
- Situations like this one are not unique and unfortunately can, and have, happened in other communities.

What is being done to ensure it doesn't happen again?

- huu?atu Health Centre staff have already taken several measures to ensure that this does not happen again, including:
 - Acquiring a data logger (a device which automatically records the fridge temperatures and emails staff immediately if a temperature is out of range);
 - A new vaccine fridge that maintains its temperature for up to six days in the event of a power outage;
 - Ensuring all staff are aware of how to monitor and record vaccine fridge temperatures;
 - Ensuring all staff are aware of procedures for power outages and vaccine fridge malfunctions.

Why are only some vaccinations being offered for revaccination?

- Vaccinations such as Covid-19 and flu are effective for relatively short periods of time and revaccination is offered seasonally. The Island Health Medical Health Officer (MHO) recommends all patients to get a booster for these viruses in the fall.
- With childhood vaccinations, it is important to ensure that the children have received the full benefit to their immune system. Preventable and highly infectious diseases such as measles are on the rise, and so out of an abundance of caution, we are recommending revaccination to these affected community members.
- Some adult boosters will also be offered for revaccination. You will be contacted by huu?atu Health Centre staff if you are one of those affected adults.

Are there any risks to my health, or my child or family member's health, from being revaccinated?

- The likelihood of any negative reaction from vaccination is very low, and this includes any vaccines that are readministered.
- The impact of being sick from a vaccine-preventable disease like measles is more serious than any risks associated with receiving a vaccine from health centre staff during this period of time.

Should I, my child or a family member consider revaccination?

